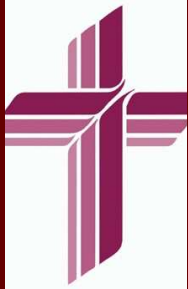


Christ Lutheran church is a fellowship of Christians, who have accepted God's call to make disciples of all nations. We have committed ourselves to the ministry of worship, witness, teaching, service and fellowship which involves each of us in boldly sharing God's Word with one another.

"A Different Ten Step Program"

November 2008



CHURCH & SCHOOL MISSOURI SYNOD

The Christ Courier

Many of you who are reading this article already know who won and lost, while I am writing it almost one full week before election day. To my recollection there has never been an election with so much fear and concern about the future and the candidates. When John F. Kennedy was president, his words rang out: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country". This election seems to scream just the opposite: "Ask what your country can do for you, not what you can do for your country". The internet and television have been filled with rumors, innuendos, and speculations about this candidate or that. Many I have talked to are almost in a state of panic. That panic has been fueled by the reckless ride of the stock market, gas prices, and the economy. It seems we are heading down a road where our destination is uncertain. The steering wheel is broken, the brakes don't work and the car is out of control. Life is sometimes like that.

If you have not ever felt this way, then you are truly blessed. Most of us have gone down this road at least once before. Employment problems, illness, finances or even death of a friend or a loved one has us scratching our head and won-

dering what will happen next. Sometimes life pounds us with wave after wave of situations not of our liking. It all seems to be so overwhelming. We just want the world to stop spinning so we can get off, at least for a while just to catch our breath.

But maybe it's not a breath we need to catch; maybe we need to look to our Creator for help. Today turning to God seems to be out of fashion; something that is gradually falling out of practice. Praying before meals in restaurants, going to church on Sunday, having nightly devotions from Holy Scripture—all seem to be things of the past. We just don't have time for God. Well if we want the world to slow down, there is only One who can do that and that is God. In 2 Kings 20 we hear about King Hezekiah being ill. Isaiah the prophet comes to tell him to Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover." King Hezekiah does what we often forget to do, he prays to God. Before Isaiah has left the courtyard, God tells him to return to the

king and tell him his prayers have been answered. King Hezekiah asks what sign God will give. The sign given is that the shadow shall go back ten steps?" (9, 10) Hezekiah prayed and God made time go backwards for him. Martin Luther used to say unless he spent hours studying God's Word and in prayer—his day was lost.

So when the election, your children, your spouse, your finances or health have you bound so tight you want to scream.... Go ahead, scream to the Lord in prayer, open His Word and hear of the promises He makes to you. I cannot guarantee that God will move the shadows back ten steps, but I know that God can make those ten steps much easier for you to bear. Things are always easier with God beside you. Let God calm your fears and exceed your hopes and dreams. Pray, Praise and give thanks. God bless you.

Pastor Dave

Church Mouse



Dear Christ Courier Readers,

I can't believe I ate the whole thing. The picnic was a huge success, at least my friends and I had a blast. So much food, the music, the prizes, the food, the toys (we bounced so high), the cookies, the apple pies, the painting of pumpkins, faces and, yes, even hair, the barbeque, Mikey, the clown, did I mention the hair painting? Maybe those young ones like crazy colors in their hair, but count me out. I tried the pink like some of the girls (to match my ears) but it sort of gave me a girly look and my friends teased me. I should have gone with the black macho stripes. There was even a purple dragon that attended which everybody enjoyed, especially the children. We watched that crew from the fire station very closely as they judged the Best Apple Pie in Mustang Contest to make sure they knew what they were doing. If me and my buddies thought something was amiss, we were going to jump right in and take over, but the decisions were right on target. Congratulations again, Mrs. Arlene; we are so proud of you. Congratulations to the group or committee who put this shindig together. I saw a lot of new faces, hope they didn't see mine. Me and my buddies even got our picture taken together; hope we get a copy. Maybe we will be on the website, or even the next church pictorial.

The bible classes this month were really worthwhile. The men studied 1Timothy and discussed that we are never too young or too weak to do God's will. Amazing, that's what the kids have been studying. Their lessons have been about some of the Old Testament characters, like Gideon, the least of the least, and Sampson, who kept messing up;

guess he was too worried about how his hair looked. (Ouch!) And when God finally left him to deal with his women and his boastfulness on his own, Samson discovered it was actually God who was His strength. Why would someone actually believe their long hair gave them strength? So whether we are bald or have the hair of Absalom, are three feet tall or have the muscles of Superman, have 20-20 vision or use a seeing eye-dog, it doesn't mean we can't accomplish God's will; we have to trust that to the Lord. Jesus said, "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." John 15:8 Samson forgot that the fruit of his muscles, his strength, was for God's glory, to save God's people from the Philistines. Instead Samson used it for his own glory and fame. What a waste! But God still used Samson, even as weak as he became, sightless and in chains, to destroy more Philistines in death than during his entire life.

I read a devotion this month taken from Ephesians. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 This mouse was in a room full of "important" mice and they were sharing things about themselves. As it became her turn to share this one mouse spoke about how insignificant she felt among those who had authored children's books, devotionals, Christian romance novels, and even newspaper journalists. She then said she supposed she was a "producer" and spoke of her accomplishments, her children, her grandchildren, her home, her jobs on the farm. She also spoke of her hunger for emotional and spiritual food. Then one of the "important" writers asked her to turn around so they could see her face. This writer

wanted to remember the face of someone who had inspired her to write her next article. These writers needed to know that we are out here, reading, searching for ways to know our Lord in a closer way. We need to be reminded of how much God loves us and how to interpret the promises that He has given us. We may seem so very insignificant at times, but God put you exactly where you are for a purpose. You may not be having fun, you may not see the significance of what you are going through, you may not "feel" your Creator's presence, but He has put you where you can serve Him, by going through the tough times, seeing pain face to face, knowing how to help another going where you have already gone. You see God had a purpose for this quiet, farm mouse, for a mother and wife, grandmother and worker, and He has a purpose for you. May you discover that purpose today; just ask the Lord. Bye for now, gotta go!
C.M.

The Christ Courier is published monthly by Christ Lutheran Church in Mustang, OK. Staff: Susan Anderson, Christ Lutheran Contributors

Deadline for the December 2008 Courier: **November 19**

Where to find Lutheran

Hour Ministries

The Lutheran Hour

Sundays

Tulsa, KRMG 740, 7 a.m.

OKC, KQCV 800, 9 a.m.

We Want Your Recipes

Pull out those cookbooks you have on your shelf. Dig into your recipe card box. Rummage through your drawers for any loose recipes you've written down or printed off the computer. And, of course, the ones you have memorized that you've made over and over again and have never written down. Please bring these favorites to the office so we may share them with the congregation in future newsletters.

Chili Cheese Dip: 1 lb. Process American cubed cheese, one 15 ounce can chili con carne w/out beans, one 4-ounce can chopped green chilis.

Tortilla chips. Combine cheese, chili and chilis in a saucepan or fondue pot. Heave over medium-low, stirring frequently until the cheese melts. Serve warm and keep warm while serving.

Submitted by Bess Wessler

Our Investors continue to support LCEF

In July, August and September, in spite of the turmoil in the commercial financial markets, our investment support remained solid. A very small number of investors did choose to close their accounts, but this number was offset by the number of new accounts ... and the dollars withdrawn was matched by dollars that were added.

Approximately fifty investors called the Saint Louis LCEF office between Sept. 18 and Oct. 2, and nearly all of those calls ended with the investors' concerns being addressed and their confidence in LCEF intact. Several investors chose to add to their LCEF investments in the belief that this is the safer option for liquid assets at this time.

Our position of liquidity is robust, with an investment portfolio of \$328 million in very marketable securities, and additional line-of-credit arrangements totaling \$100 million. Our total assets on June 30, 2008, were more than \$1.8 billion.

Key issues that may be of concern to you

Subprime mortgage exposure. LCEF was not negatively impacted by direct investments in subprime mortgages, the cause of many losses in the financial sector. In fact, within our loan portfolio—made up of loans mostly to congregations and other ministries—we are experiencing normal, favorable repayment history, with few foreclosures and minimal write-offs. LCEF did experience paper losses on real estate loans due to falling property values. These losses have been fully provided for in LCEF's June 30, 2008, financials, and yet LCEF's net income, after the reserves for real estate were provided, totaled \$2.9 million. LCEF has the opportunity to recoup a portion of these losses as the real estate market recovers in the next few years.

Investments.

Our portfolio of investments is well diversified, and we had no direct investment in Bear Stearns or Lehman Brothers. We do hold Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac fixed-income securities, but they are backed by the federal government, therefore are safe and do not expose us to financial loss. Our financial team works with outside professional financial advisors in constructing an investment portfolio that is conservative and prudent.

Don't hesitate to call us should you have any further questions. We thank you for your prayers and support in helping to ensure that funds and services are available now and in the future for LCMS member organizations.

Angel Food Order Dates November

Wednesday,
November 5,
5-6:30 p.m.

Friday,
November 7,
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.,
5-6:30 p.m.

Saturday,
November 8
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday,
November 9,
Noon – 1

Distribution Date:

Saturday,
November 22,
9 – 10:30 a.m.

Did You Know?

- that Regina Clifton not only bakes cakes for sale but also cleans houses?

- Please let the church office know of anything...absolutely anything...in your life so we can let the rest of the congregation be "in the know."

Christ Lutheran Church Minutes for Elder's Meeting: 09/09/08

Christ Lutheran Church's Board of Lay Ministry is a fellowship of Christians who have accepted God's call to make disciples of all nations! We have committed ourselves to a ministry of worship, witness teaching, service, and fellowship, which involves each of us boldly sharing God's word with one another and the community.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, Amen!

Present: Ed Means, Darryl Poole, Jerry Coghill, Craig Clifton, Pastor Owens, Frank Stegall, Matt Fairchild, Curtis Hedrick, Carl Miedich, Danny Brown, & Stanley Witt

I. Opening — Pastor opened with a prayer.

II. Old Business

A. Matt read the minutes of the August elder's meeting. There was no discussion about the minutes. Stan made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Carl. After a vote, the minutes were approved and will be posted in the congregational folder.

B. Matt informed the board that the elder's get together scheduled for Sept. 20th will be postponed due to a conflicting schedule with the Stowers/Wood wedding.

III. New Business

A. Pastor gave his report and he informed the board of his activity for the previous month, including hospital visits, home visits, etc. Pastor also informed the board of those that are sick and congregational members and visitors in need of prayer and visitation. (See attached) **B.** The board accepted the transfer in of Sharon Martin, Joe Oliver, and Julian Cecil after a motion was made by Carl and seconded by Stan. Sharon and Joe were added to Carl's zone and the Cecil family was added to Danny's zone.

C. The elders discussed the board of trustees and how to communicate the need for work to be done. The elder's agreed when equipment is need of repair or replacing an e-mail will be sent out to all trustee board members including the information of what needs to be done. **D.** Matt informed the board a check needed to be sent to Daniel Ross from the Adopt a Seminary Student fund for this semester. Danny made a motion to send a check for \$250.00 to Daniel and Stan seconded the motion. After a vote the board approved the motion. **E.** The board assigned specific duties to members of the board. Curtis will be the Alter Guild elder, Matt will be the confirmation elder, Danny and Matt will be the worship elders and Carl will be the choir elder. Each elder will be responsible for communication between the board and their assigned groups. **F.** The board discussed Pastor's insurance plan for the upcoming year. It was suggested Pastor's insurance be dropped a level with the difference in payment to be put into a medical fund to be paid separately to Pastor to help with deductibles. Further discussion was tabled until after the first of the year. **G.**

Pastor informed the board the community picnic will be October 26th and he told the board of the plans being made. Pastor asked the board for help in setting up prior to the picnic. Plans for set up will be made in the near future. **H.** Pastor informed the board he will be having a meeting with parents of the confirmation students Sept. 10th. Pastor is expecting any where from 4 to 7 students to be involved this year. **I.** Pastor informed the board LWML Sunday is October 5th. **J.** Pastor informed the board elections for district offices will take place April 24th and 25th at the district conference. A lay delegate and an alternative delegate will need to be selected from our church to vote in the elections. Pastor asked the board to consider whom the church may want to select as delegates. **K.** Craig informed the board an insurance check had been received to replace the lawn mower. The elders discussed security options to prevent further thefts with further discussion to take place at the council meeting. **L.** Pastor informed the board Camp Lutherhoma is hosting an event for confirmation age students the weekend of October 12th and a male chaperone may be needed. **M.** Pastor told the board he may want to take vacation the week of Nov. 9th to attend the 150th anniversary celebration for St. Paul's church in Missouri.

N. Matt informed the elders the next meeting will be Tues. October 7th at 7:00 PM.

IV. Closing Prayer — Pastor Owens

Preschool Post

Fantastic Fours

The leaves are changing and the weather is blustery; November must be upon us. 2 ½ months have just flown by since the beginning of the school year. It has been a terrific fall.

In October we had a visit from Fire Chief Darrel. It was exciting to watch him put on his firefighter's suit. We learned that matches are not toys and how to stop – drop & roll. We also attempted to go to T.G. Farms twice and the weather just didn't cooperate with us. It was such a disappointment not to go on the field trip. On the 31st we read the Pumpkin Patch Parable and learned about the Father putting His light in us.

In November we look forward to learning about the Pilgrims' search for religious freedom and celebrating their feast of thanksgiving. We, too will have our own rendition of the first Thanksgiving meal on Monday the 24th with the kindergarten class. The Four's will portray the Native Americans, vest and feather headbands and all.

We will also learn the numerals 8 & 9, colors purple & blue and the oval. We will make cornucopia, turkeys and pilgrim puppets.

We hope that as you and your family celebrate Thanksgiving, you will say a special prayer of thanks to the Lord for Christ Lutheran School. We are teaching & reaching young ones & their parents with the love of Christ Jesus.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for helping us by purchasing items from the school's fund raisers. I realize that everyone is facing tightening purse strings but I also know that investing in the Lord's work and the future of children always has its rewards. May the Lord richly bless you. Most of all I want to thank you for lifting all of us in prayer. We desire to be God's hands, extending them in love to our students.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

*In the Lord's service,
Robin Ila Wilkerson, Preschool Teacher for the 4's*

44433344433344433333

The Three Tree

October was a great month in our classroom. The Lord has beautiful trees outside our window. We are watching them change and learning about Fall. These trees really make a great example. We also had a visit from a fireman who gave a great demonstration of what to do in case of emergency and the children we active participants. We were unable to go to the TG Farms due to the weather. We were all disappointed but these things happen.

We had a new student enroll last week as well. His name is Alex Hall and a most welcome addition to our class. We look forward to sharing our class with him.

Our theme for the up and coming month will be fall and Thanksgiving. I love this time of year and what a blessing to share this with these little ones. We have new numbers and colors to learn as well as the story of Moses.

We greatly appreciate all of your support and prayers. We have been richly blessed.

*In His Service,
Mrs. Marion Hodge, Preschool 3s Teacher*

KINDERGARTEN KORNER

This November, the Kindergarten is very thankful for the many blessings God has given us. We are thankful for our friends and families.

We are thankful for the country we live in. God Bless the USA!

We are thankful for our state Oklahoma!

We are thankful for our school, Christ Lutheran School. We are thankful for our new student, Amanda.

We are thankful for Fireman Darrel, who came to teach us about fire safety.

We are thankful for our fun filled trip to the TG Farms Pumpkin Patch.

Thank you Lord for blessing us this fall.

We will show our thankful ness for God's many blessings at our Thanksgiving Feast on Monday, Nov. 24th. We will dress like Pilgrims and Indians. We will sing some fun Thanksgiving and Turkey songs and eat some yummy Thanksgiving food that we make in class. All are welcome to attend and be thankful for God's many fall blessings.

Our Thanksgiving Break will be Nov. 26-28.

May the Lord bless you all this fall.

Mrs. Tammy Whitaker
Kindergarten Teacher



SEMINARY NOTES

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father,

This quarter is halfway through and I am wondering where all the time has gone. Things seem to be flying fast here. I have completely lost track of time. Looking at the calendar today I was shocked to see that it was already October 14. I am still trying to figure out what happened to September. This quarter I am taking five classes, Worship, History of the LCMS, Homiletics, Systems I, and Synoptic Gospels. I guess this helps to explain where September went.

Worship is a fairly straightforward class. We study the history of worship practices and also learn how to preside over a Lutheran worship service out of LSB. History of the LCMS is...well, the history of the LCMS starting when the first Saxon immigrants come over from Germany and settled in Missouri. There are a lot of names, dates, and arguments/discussions to memorize in this class. Systems I deals with the First Article of the Creed. For those of you who were like me when I first heard this, what that means is that it looks at all the theology and debate surrounding

the phrase, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." It is very surprising how much is out there about this, going all the way back to the early church fathers.

Synoptic Gospels is a fun class. We are looking at Matthew, Mark, and Luke in relation to each other. But, we also looked at Gnostic gospels and how they differed from Christian gospels. We also looked at the writing styles of each and how it factored into what was in each one and what was left out of each one. Homiletics is hands down the class I like the most. I am working on my first sermon right now! It's due this Thursday. I am so excited! To be writing something to bring the Word of God to the People of God! But, it is nerve wracking at the same time. The whole class is afraid of accidentally saying something heretical. Although, I really cannot wait to be able to preach. The exciting and scary thing is, with this class and worship, once I have passed this quarter; I will be able to do a whole Lutheran service! I feel like I am 16 and getting a driver license all over again.

In more social news, I am the assistant soccer coach of the seminary's soccer team again this year. It has been a challenging season and will draw to a too quick ending this Friday. Intramurals have started up again. My team is not doing so well. But, since it is more about having fun instead of winning it really does not matter what is the record.

In Christ,
Daniel Ross

Meet Our Newest Members

Have you met our newest members?

If not, please introduce yourself to the Cecil family: From left, Tara, Julian and Ashton.

The Cecils have been attending CLC for quite some time and joined through Affirmation of Faith. Julian recently finished the adult information class. The Cecils live in Mustang.

Marion and Deborah Sholtess, pictured below, also reside in Mustang. The Sholtess were accepted into membership through Affirmation of Fifth.

We will continue to feature new members in the December edition of the Courier.

FALL FUNDRAISERS CONTINUE @ CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL

A big thank you to those who purchased something from the school's second fundraiser – Christmas wreaths and sprays. The delivery is scheduled for Nov. 20-21. The next fundraiser is the sale of items from Current magazine.. Members of the school board and members attending the school will soon be selling these items and they will be delivered in time for Christmas. Thank you for your continued support of Christ Lutheran School.

Do you give from the heart or the bank account?

In October, Pastor gave a sermon addressing the topic of money. Pastor made it very clear that he did not like preaching about money and that we parishioners are usually uncomfortable listening to this message. I have served as a stewardship chairperson under two other Pastors at our church in Tennessee. They echoed the same sentiment that Pastor Dave shared. I think when this subject is discussed, many times we realize how blessed we are and what little we really give. But, as Pastor stated in his sermon, we are to give with our whole heart and not just because the offering plate is put into your face. God does not look at what we have given but looks at our heart.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all times, having all that you need you will abound in every good work."

As an accountant, I am very accustomed to discussing money. I feel comfortable talking about this topic with the CEO's and CFO that I work with. I can give them guidance on why they are not making money or how to make more money. It's all about the numbers in the business world. Unfortunately, many times the view of money from the business environment shadows over into our per-

sonal life. We start making decisions with our treasures that do not serve God first. We buy new cars, purchase big houses and eat out several times a week which all adds up quickly. When we place our offerings into the offering plate, do we feel the love of giving to the Lord or do we say, "I'm not giving very much because I have a car payment to make. God will understand."

Exodus 23:19 "Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God"

When I look at the topic of giving money, I always go back to the decisions we have made. Are we good stewards of our gifts? We always need to keep in mind that it's all God's treasures. He is only loaning it out to us and when we get called to our Heavenly home we're leaving the new car, house, Wii and all the other material things behind. The Lord will judge our heart not our bank account.

One other note: I want to point out a great example of giving the gift of time and talents. Christ Lutheran's community picnic was a big success. The Lord brought to us many members of our community who have never stepped into our church. There were many parishioners who gave numerous hours of their time and shared their talents. God was looking down on us with a smile knowing that His children were working together as brothers and sisters in Christ to share His message. Thank you Lord for each of these blessings.

Barry Anderson
Stewardship Chair

FREE/FOR SALE

If you have not picked up a Christ Lutheran Church & School ball cap for yourself, there are a few left on the table in the Narthex. In addition, there are four picnic t-shirts left for sale @ \$10 a piece. The sizes are 2XL and 3XL.

Christmas Programs Scheduled

The Christ Lutheran Church Sunday School Christmas program has been set for Sunday, Dec. 14 @ 7 p.m. Stay tuned for more details. Two nights later, the Christ Lutheran School Christmas program will be at 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 16. Please plan on attending.

FIVE BEST THINGS TO SAY IF YOU GET CAUGHT SLEEPING AT YOUR DESK:

NUMBER 5: They told me at the Blood Bank this might happen.

NUMBER 4: This is just a 15 minute power nap they raved about in the time-management course you sent me to.

NUMBER 3: Whew! Guess I left the top off the White-out. You probably got here just in time!

NUMBER 2: Did you ever notice sound coming out of these keyboards when you put your ear down real close?

NUMBER 1: (Raising your head slowly) '... in Jesus' name, Amen

E-Z WAYS FOR YOU TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

- **Shop at Target.** All you have to do is use your Target Credit Card, Target Visa Card or Target Check Card (the REDcards) and Target will donate 1 percent of your purchase to our school. Get started by applying for your cards at the Target store or online at Target.com/redcard. Once you have your cards or if you already have one of these cards, you either can call 1 (800) 316-6142, go to the kiosk at the store, or visit Target.com/tcoe and click on "Enroll in Take Charge of Education." Enter Christ Lutheran School as the participating school and enter our ID # 115983. You must register your new or existing cards one of these three ways for us to receive the credit. Donation amounts begin to accrue after each purchase and the good news is, we've already received two checks from Target! Thank you for supporting your school by shopping at Target.

- **Box Tops for Education.** Did you know your cereal, Kleenex and other products can help the school? Check and look for the Box Top\$ for Education. Cut them out and place in the school box tops box. This is ongoing through the school year and summer. We submitted our first entry— more than 1,000 box tops. Way to go!!!

PICNIC DRAWS LARGEST ATTENDANCE TO DATE

If you were unable to attend the 5th annual community picnic at the end of October, you missed an incredible day of fun. More than 300 attended this year's picnic (the largest attendance yet.) Once again, member Arlene Smith won the Best Apple Pie in Mustang contest, Mustang's head librarian, Desiree Webber, won second and the dad of Alex Hall, CLS's newest 3-year-old, Doug Hall, tied with member, Jerri Hedrick for 3rd place. A big thanks to Williams Food in Yukon for donating some of the buns, 7-11 in Mustang who donated 40 bags of ice, Walmart in Yukon for donating the kid's bicycle and the numerous restaurants who donated the gift cards. But more than anything, a millions thanks to everyone at Christ Lutheran who helped make this day so successful – from set up two weeks ago to the clean up Sunday evening and everything in between – gathering donations, delivering fliers, smoking and grilling meat, cooking and baking, leading games, prepping food, decorating, setting up, entertaining, shopping, making phone calls, manning the different tables, watching kids in moon bounces and running errands. Without you, it wouldn't have been possible. What a joy to see brothers and sisters in Christ working together to reach the community. You all are such a blessing and thank you again for everything you did for this picnic. It is so appreciated!

Blessings, Susan Anderson, Fellowship Chair

Make room for visitors, those running late



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

Doesn't this cartoon ring true for all of us at one time or another?

As our church continues to add more families, the pews are filling up fast and sometimes leaving many standing in back looking for a seat after the service has started. There are a few ways to ease this issue. If you are used to sitting in the back, please think about moving forward and leaving the last few pews for those who come in a little late or are visiting. Also, if you usually sit on the end of the pew like our cartoon depicts, please move to the middle so the ends are open for these congregants. If you've been sitting in that same spot for "42 years", we hope you'll consider a change.

At the most recent Church Council meeting, members discussed the space issue and will bring before the voters assembly, the suggestion of bringing in an architect who could give us a plan for someday expanding the sanctuary and building on a permanent fellowship hall. Wouldn't it be great to have a room where we didn't have to take the tables and chairs up and down all the time? The congregational Voter's meeting will be Sunday, November 16 after the late service as well as the Thanksgiving potluck.

Lots of News From LWML

What a wonderful example we had of "Lutheran Women's Missionary League" on LWML Sunday. Thanks to all the Ladies that served in various ways at the Services. We truly hope that everyone now knows a little more about what LWML is and what we as Women For Christ do here at Christ Lutheran.

We continue to support both the Oklahoma District Mission projects as well as our National projects through our mites. Pastor gave each child their own mite boxes during the Children's Sermon so they too could save mites for mission work. That is very exciting to help show our young people how else we can serve Jesus by helping others hear the Good News of Jesus with our few coins.

Women For Christ strive to not only grow in our relationship with the Triune God through the study of His word, build each other up in Faith, and share each others joys and burdens as Christian women, but we also desire to help share our many Blessings in the community and beyond. In doing that we are doing a Global, National and Local mission project each month if possible.

We have chosen to support a child through World Vision and what a reward when we hear back from her. Her name is Rupa and she is 7 years old and in Bangladesh. We anxiously await the news of her receipt of her birthday gift that was sent in Sept. It was a beautiful puppet doll that any little girl would love and surely like nothing she has ever had the luxury of owning.

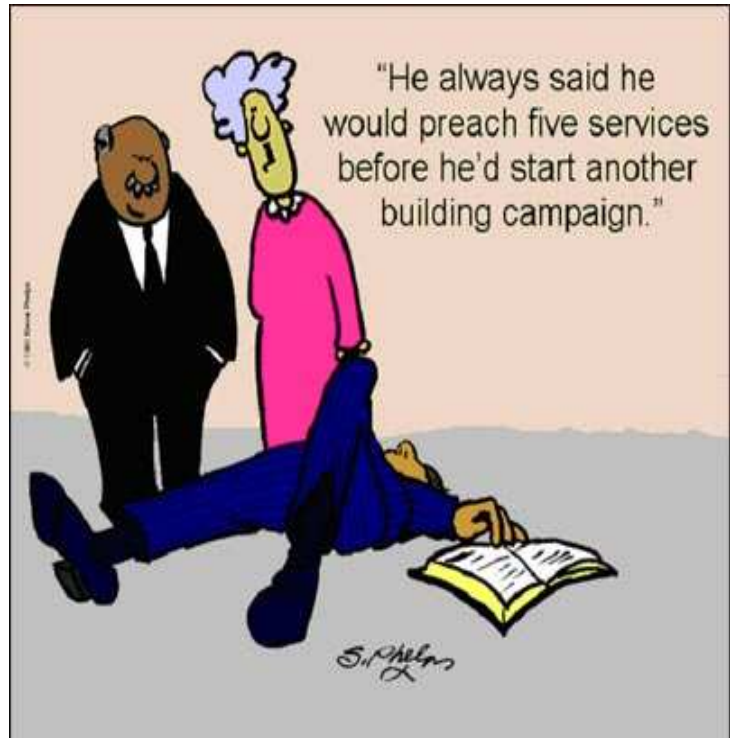
We collected items for Birth Choice here in Mustang and will probably continue to check on those needs in the future. Encouraging Life in God's kingdom takes little effort and has the highest rewards! Many of you know what it is like to have the Blessing of a child and how special all children are to our world and to God.

We are collecting items for our Seminary student again in hopes of sending them before the holidays. It is so very important to encourage him in his journey to serving as God's shepherd through ministry.

We just this week helped a young Marine that is being shipped off to Okinawa and then on to Afghanistan with a \$50.00 phone card. His mom is a single mom and just could not accomplish all the things he needed with him home the few days on leave. This will allow him to keep in touch from California and hopefully until he gets established in Okinawa.

We will be sending a check to Redeemer Lutheran High School to help with their lunch program. We are unable to take in lunch so will help this very important project with a monetary gift.

Now is the time of year to plan our Christmas project and party. The party will be at Sandi Keig's house on Tues. Dec. 9th at 7 pm. **ALL** the ladies of our congregation are invited to attend. We will have our traditional ornament exchange so please bring a wrapped ornament and also bring a gift if you would like to participate in the gift exchange. Of course if you have a Secret Pal, you will bring them their final gift. We will draw for new Secret Pals in January. There are several of us that do not have a Secret Pal so we participate in the gift exchange.



For Nov. LCEF Investment rates, see the bulletin in the Narthex. Questions, see Karen Fairchild, our LCEF representative.

Also please bring a finger food to share. This is the party where we often eat dessert first!! Well I guess we do at our monthly meetings too. (We sometimes even share with the Elders for their meetings)

At our meeting on Nov. 11th we will finalize our Christmas project, the Angel Tree, and ask the congregation members for help as we have in the past years. If you know of a family in need, please let myself or Susan Anderson know so we can discuss it at our meeting. We can certainly keep the names anonymous if there is a need. We are also discussing some other organizations that are in need of our help. Our congregation is so helpful that I am sure as in the past we will be able to bless lives again this Christmas and show God's Love –Our Response.

We meet the second Tues. of each month at 7 pm with a Bible Study/Devotion and short business meeting to discuss our mission work and then of course there is the food. We have been finishing up around 8:30 or at the latest 9 pm. Please consider taking the time to join us as we continue our own journey in our spiritual growth and service to our Lord.

*Serving Him,
Barbara Coghill
President LWML.*

Wonderful Reminder - Appreciate Everything

There was a blind girl who hated herself because she was blind. She hated everyone, except her loving boyfriend. He was always there for her. She told her boyfriend, 'If I could only see the world, I would marry you.' One day, someone donated a pair of eyes to her. When the bandages came off, she was able to see everything, including her boyfriend. He asked her, 'Now that you can see the world, will you marry me?' The girl looked at her boyfriend and saw that he was blind. The sight of his closed eyelids shocked her. She hadn't expected that. The thought of looking at them the rest of her life led her to refuse to marry him. Her boyfriend left in tears and days later wrote a note to her saying: 'Take good care of your eyes, my dear, for before they were yours, they were mine.'

This is how the human brain often works when our status changes. Only a very few remember what life was like before, and who was always by their side in the most painful situations. Life Is a Gift. So today before you say an unkind word - Think of someone who can't speak. Before you complain about the taste of your food - Think of someone who has nothing to eat. Before you complain about your husband or wife - Think of someone who's crying out to GOD for a companion. Today before you complain about life - Think of someone who went too early to heaven. Before whining about the distance you drive Think of someone who walks the same distance with their feet. And when you are tired and complain about your job - Think of the unemployed, the disabled, and those who wish they had your job. And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down - Put a smile on your face and think: you're alive and still around.

OKC LUTHERANS

The Lutheran Churches of the Oklahoma City Area are partnering to assure that the broadcast of the **Lutheran Hour** continues. The current station in the OKC area that was carrying the Lutheran hour was broadcasting on a station out of Norman but that station is dropping the broadcast.

The OKC Lutheran churches are going to pool our resources to sponsor the program on AM 800 KQCV-AM.

The broadcasts will cost \$145 dollars each and we would like to ask you to consider personally sponsoring a broadcast.

We will establish a special fund at Messiah to gather the funds from the various churches to be used to pay for the program. If you want to make a donation to sponsor one or more broadcasts or partially support a broadcast, (we will accept any size donation) please send a check to Messiah and indicate "**Lutheran Hour Broadcast**" on the memo line of your check. Send to: Messiah Lutheran Church, 3600 NW Expressway, OKC OK 73112

Yes, I would be interested in sponsoring a **LUTHERAN HOUR BROADCAST. Broadcast cost: \$145.00;**

Donation of any size also accepted.

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in honor of the anniversary of _____

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in celebration of the birthday of _____

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in memory of _____

Name: _____

_____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Note below when you wish to sponsor the Lutheran Hour Broadcast

Sunday, _____

(Month / Day)

Please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church. Please mark on the memo line "Lutheran Hour Broadcast"